

Regular Council Meeting
April 22, 2004

Mayor Marse opened the workshop for interviewing the applicants for the grounds maintenance position at 6pm. Interviews were conducted on 5 applicants namely Shannon Cooper, Douglas Ealum, Jimmy Spiers, James Watson and Tony Wilson. The Mayor explained the position and benefits to each applicant. Each Council member asked questions of the applicants and noted their abilities to perform the job. After careful consideration Jimmy Spiers was the applicant with the best qualifications for the job. Mayor Marse closed the workshop at 6:45 pm.

Mayor Marse called to order the regular scheduled meeting of April 22, 2004 at 7 pm..

Councilman Helton gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members Present: Mayor J.M. Marse, Council members Scott Brannon, Janice McLean, Earl King, Jean Arrant, and Mike Helton were present. Also present: City Clerk Diane Riley and City Attorney Clayton Adkinson.

Councilman Helton motioned to accept the minutes of RCM 4/13/04. Councilwoman McLean 2nd the motion, motion carried, 5-0. Councilwoman Arrant requested that the owners of the trailers located in the Freeport Trailer Park that were given permission by the Council to move to another area within the City be given written notification of such by a formal letter from the City.

Old Business:

Paul Miller of WFRPC submitted a written planning project status report to the Council and Mayor.

No engineer's report was submitted.

New Business:

Andrea Hartsog made a presentation for the W.C. Health Department on a project that the department was granted. The City of Freeport is the benchmark of the project to access the needs of the community. It has the combine involvement of government, citizenship, and the health department. Councilwoman Arrant was nominated to represent the City and Councilman King will serve as the alternate.

Dea Coleman cancelled her request.

Councilman Brannon motioned to pay all bills that are in order. Councilwoman Arrant 2nd the motion, it carried, 5-0.

Mayor Marse informed the Council that Regional Utilities representative Dewey Wilson approached him with the request of allowing Regional Utilities to provide sewer services to bay area, Black Creek area, all property east of hwy 331 up to the City limits, and north of hwy 20 out towards the J.W. Hollington area. Councilman Brannon motioned to allow the Mayor to negotiate with Regional Utilities on releasing the sewer franchise in these areas. Councilman King 2nd the motion, it carried, 5-0.

Mayor Marse reminded the Council and audience of the Relay for Life event slated for May 7, 2004 and encouraged everyone to come join us.

Councilwoman McLean requested the termination of fire chief Jason Owens. She noted that his performance has not been good enough to run the Fire Department. She then requested the Council to hire Ray Sullivan as the interim Fire Chief with a 90 day probation period. After some heated discussion, Councilman Brannon motioned to terminate Jason Owens as Fire Chief. Councilman Helton 2nd the motion, it carried, 5-0. Councilman King motioned to accept Councilwoman McLean's recommendation

to hire Ray Sullivan as the interim Fire Chief. Councilwoman Arrant seconded the motion, it carried, 5-0.

Councilman King motioned to hire Jimmy Spiers for the grounds maintenance position, Councilman Helton 2nd the motion, it carried, 5-0.

With no other business, Councilman Helton motioned to adjourn at 8.15 pm.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

J.M. Marse, Mayor

Diane Riley, City Clerk

Janice McLean, President of Council